

Remarks

Original claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,363,200 B1 remain unchanged. New claims 10-34 have been added by this preliminary amendment. Claims 1-34 are currently pending.

Support for new claims 10-34 is found in the specification. In particular, support for claims 10-23 can be found, for example, at columns 4-5, lines 61-2; column 6, lines 33-36; and in the drawings (e.g. FIGS. 9, 10 and 17). Support for new claims 24-34 can be found, for example, at column 4, lines 4-34; columns 4-5, lines 61-2; column 5, lines 44-55; column 6, lines 33-36; and in the drawings (e.g. FIGS. 1-7, 9, 10, 17 and 20).

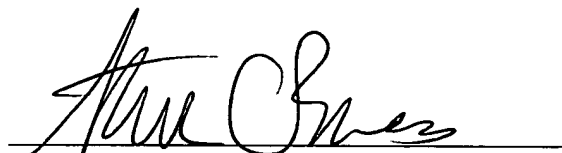
Examination and timely allowance of the application, as amended, are requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at 612.332.5300 if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date:

March 26, 2004



Steven C. Bruess
Reg. No. 34,130
SCB:KAF:PLSkaw

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE